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SC No. 11390/62

7 V 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Future Reporting on Soviet Maritime Traffic in Arms

1. This memorandum is in answer to your request that we outline how we propose to report on a continuing basis the movement of those Soviet merchant ships capable of carrying, below decks, missiles and related equipment.

2. We propose initially to continue the procedure in existence for some years; that is, weekly we will forward to the OCI Indications Liaison Officer a statement summarizing Soviet Bloc activities related to the delivery of arms to non-Bloc countries. Specific statements on the 8/10 suspect missile carriers (and others of similar classes now being built) will be included when relevant. Additional distribution of this report can be made as is desired. We also can turn out more frequent periodic listings but experience in following suspect Soviet arms carriers suggests that weekly reports are adequate.

3. Also, we will continue to report in the Central Intelligence Bulletin on suspicious activity by these or any other bloc vessels when more than the weekly routine treatment appears desirable. [redacted]

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4. In order to maintain a close watch on those ships capable of carrying ballistic missiles, as well as all other suspected arms carriers, it

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[redacted]

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5. Attached is a current listing of the status of the potential Soviet missile carriers by name and last known position with pertinent comments concerning cargo and destination. It is believed that this is the briefest and most usable format for regular reporting on the activities of these ships.

ANNEX: Status of Potential Soviet Missile Carriers

/s/

E. J. SMITH
Assistant Director
Current Intelligence

Distribution:
Orig. & 2 - Addressee
1 - ODDI
1 - AD/CI
1 - AD/RR
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RR/St/CS [redacted] : [redacted] sp/6981(7 November 1962)

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ANNEX TO: Future Reporting on Soviet Maritime Traffic in Arms

STATUS OF POTENTIAL SOVIET MISSILE CARRIERS

6 November 1962

Name	Last Known Position	Comments
Beloretsk	3 Nov 1000EST 37:40N, 00:95E	Returning to Black Sea from Havana: suspected of carrying arms on its voyage to Cuba.
Belovodsk	4 Nov 1000EST	Arrived Havana. Commercial cargo included 12 Mi-4 helicopters. First Soviet dry cargo ship to pass quarantine line.
Kasimov	ETA Leningrad 30 Oct	One of 16 ships to have turned back after imposition of quarantine. Cargo included crates, cranes and trucks. The Kasimov delivered 10 IL-28's to Cuba in early October.
Klimovsk	3 Nov 1544Z Entering Kaliningrad	One of the 16 ships that turned back. Cargo included 21 large cylindrical containers, trucks and extra large crates.

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Krasnograd	29 Oct - in Leningrad	One of the 16 ships that turned back. Cargo of at least 5 trucks, 2 large crates. 25X1D1a
Okhotsk	4 Nov 2015EST Passed Bosphorous Southbound, declared Havana 25X1D1a	Cargo of [redacted] 25X1D1a [redacted] metal. Previous trip made with light cargo. 25X1D1a [redacted] One of the 16 ships which turned back.
Omsk	4 Nov in Novorossiysk 25X1D1a	[redacted] Made previous trip to Cuba in mid-October 25X1D1a [redacted] 25X1D1a
Orenburg	5 Nov 0810EST in Baltic Sea 25X1D1a	[redacted] 25X1D1a [redacted] Previous sailed to Cuba from Black Sea in early October 25X1D1a [redacted]
Poltava	3 Nov 1232EST in unidentified Baltic port.	One of the 16 ships that turned back. Came out of Black Sea but returned to Baltic where it has unloaded cargo of very large crates. Now proceeding in ballast to Black Sea.

NSA concurs in all redactions on this page

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Simferopol	ETA Odessa, 3 Nov	Delivered cargo of trucks and electronic vans to Cuba about 18 October.

NOTE:

In addition to the ships listed above there are two other ships that will be included in future reporting. The Karachaevsk, of the Krasnograd class, which arrived in Leningrad on 28 October presumably to load for her maiden voyage. The Polotsk, a sister ship of the Poltava, now undergoing trials in the Black Sea and soon to be in operation.

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